

AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS

The attached sheets of drawings includes changes to Figs. 18 and 19. These sheets, which include Figs. 18 and 19, replace the original sheets including Figs. 18 and 19.

In Figure 18, previously omitted elements 72, 703 and 7031 have been added.

In Figure 19, previously omitted elements 720, 721, 722, 725, 7031, 7141 and 7142 have been added.

Attachment: Replacement Sheets

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

This case has been carefully reviewed and analyzed in view of the final Office Action dated August 17, 2006. Please reconsider the application in view of the above amendments and following remarks.

Claim 23 is objected to because of the informalities. In response to this, claim 23 has been canceled by this Amendment.

The drawing "REPLACEMENT SHEETS" filed on June 30, 2006 are not approved, since such Replacement sheets are required to have their changes explained in detail. In response to this, the drawings including changes to Figs. 18 and 19 are attached in this Amendment, and changes shown in Figs. 18 and 19 are explained as follows:

To clarify features of the invention specified in the amended claims and description, according to the amendments filed on June 30, 2006 and the above amendments, several reference numbers are added in Figs. 18 and 19. In Fig. 18, new references numbers 72, 703 and 7031 have been added. The element "block" is added to reference number 72. The new reference number 703 is given to the

added element "space" and the new reference number 7031 is given to the added element "wall."

Furthermore, new references numbers 720, 721, 722, 725, 7031, 7141 and 7142 have been added in Fig. 19. The reference number 720 is given to the added element "neck portion", the element "mounting portion" is added to reference number 721 and the element "engaging portion" is added to reference number 722. The element "gap" is added to reference number 725 and the new reference number 7031 is given to the added element "wall." Additionally, the new reference number 7141 is given to the added element "U-shaped receiver 7141" and the new reference number 7142 is given to the added element "bottom plate."

Accordingly, it is believed that the drawing "REPLACEMENT SHEETS" now filed should be approved.

In the Office Action, claim 21 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102 (e), as being anticipated by over Loughlin (324). Claim 13 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 (a), as being unpatentable over Loughlin (324) in view of Huang (076). Claim 15 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 (a), as being unpatentable over Loughlin (324) in view of Huang (076) and further in view of Meckbach (678). Additionally, Claim 16 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 (a), as

being unpatentable over Loughlin (324) in view of Lai (672) and Huang (076).

Responsive to the rejections above, claim 13 has been amended to correct the language thereof and claim 15 is remained. Claims 16-23 are canceled. Claims 24-29 are added by this amendment.

For the following reasons, the applicant respectfully traverses the rejections of the Examiner.

Before discussing the cited references relied upon by the Examiner, it is believed beneficial to first briefly review the structure of the invention, as now claimed. The invention, as now claimed in claim 13, is directed to a padlock which includes a lock body, a block, a shackle, a combination locking means and a key operated locking means. The lock body has a first channel and a second channel. The block engaged with the second channel and has a receptacle. The shackle has a longer arm slidably received in the first channel and a shorter arm engageable with the receptacle of said block.

The combination locking means is formed in the lock body and connected with the longer arm of the shackle for locking or unlocking the shackle. The key operated locking means is formed in the lock body for controlling movements of the block in order the

block to be engaged with or disengaged from the shorter arm of the shackle. Additionally, the block comprises an engaging portion having the receptacle therein, and a mounting portion under the engaging portion. The key operated locking means comprises a body having a rotor received therein and a driving rod extended from the rotor, which has a keyhole at a bottom end thereof for being engaged with a key. The driving rod is engaged with the mounting portion of the block, and the receptacle has a gap with a width larger than a diameter of the shorter arm of the shackle to be engaged therewith.

Additionally, the invention, as now claimed in claim 24, is further directed to a padlock which includes a lock body, a block, a shackle, a combination locking means and a key operated locking means. The lock body has a first channel and a second channel. The block is engaged with the second channel, and comprises an engaging portion, a neck portion and a mounting portion. The engaging portion has a top defining a receptacle and a side defining a gap communicated with the receptacle. The mounting portion is under the engaging portion. Additionally, the neck portion is received in the second channel, and connects the engaging portion and the mounting portion. Furthermore, a diameter of the neck portion is smaller than a diameter of the engaging portion. The shackle has a longer arm slidably received in the first channel, and a shorter arm

engageable with the block via either one of the receptacle and the gap of said block.

The combination locking means is formed in the lock body and connected with the longer arm of the shackle for locking or unlocking the shackle. The key operated locking means is formed in the lock body for controlling movements of the block in order the block to be engaged with or disengaged from the shorter arm of the shackle. Additionally, the key operated locking means comprises a body having a rotor received, and a driving rod extended from said rotor. The rotor has a keyhole at a bottom end for being engaged with a key, and the driving rod is engaged with the mounting portion of the block.

In contradistinction, the Loughlin reference discloses a lock which includes a lock body, a block, a shackle, a combination mechanism and a cylinder. The cylinder is provided with a gate or opening for a toe of the shackle, and could be rotated by a conventional key lock mechanism. The Huang reference discloses a cylinder assembly for a door lock, and the cylinder assembly comprises a housing, a cylinder, an actuating tongue and a cap. The actuating tongue is adapted to engage with a slot in an actuating tongue of the other cylinder. However, nowhere does the cited references specifically disclose or suggest "the block comprises an

engaging portion having the receptacle therein, and a mounting portion under the engaging portion. The key operated locking means comprises a body having a rotor received therein and a driving rod extended from the rotor, which has a keyhole at a bottom end thereof for being engaged with a key. The driving rod is engaged with the mounting portion of the block, and the receptacle has a gap with a width larger than a diameter of the shorter arm of the shackle to be engaged therewith." Also, the cited references are different structures of locks; therefore, it is believe that the Loughlin and Huang references teach away from the structure of the present invention of the subject Patent Application and cannot make obvious the invention, as now defined in claim 13.

Furthermore, the Meckbach reference discloses a padlock which comprises a lock body, a lock shackle and a lock cylinder. An insert provided in the padlock has openings are dimensioned and shaped to receive posts of a pin. Similar to the above contradistinction, the structure of the Meckbach reference is also different from the present invention. Therefore, it is also believed that the Loughlin, Huang and Meckbach references teach away from the structure of the invention of the subject Patent Application and cannot make obvious the invention, as now claimed in claim 15.

Furthermore, it is also believed that nowhere does the Loughlin, Meckbach, Lai and Huang disclose or suggest "the block comprises an engaging portion, a neck portion and a mounting portion. The engaging portion has a top defining a receptacle and a side defining a gap communicated with the receptacle. The mounting portion is under the engaging portion. The neck portion is received in the second channel, and connects the engaging portion and the mounting portion," "a diameter of the neck portion is smaller than a diameter of the engaging portion. The shackle has a longer arm slidably received in the first channel, and a shorter arm engageable with the block via either one of the receptacle and the gap of said block," and "the key operated locking means comprises a body having a rotor received, and a driving rod extended from said rotor. The rotor has a keyhole at a bottom end for being engaged with a key, and the driving rod is engaged with the mounting portion of the block," as now claimed in claim 24. Therefore, it is believed that the claims dependent upon Claim 24 provide further patentably distinct limitations, but are at least patentably distinct for the same reasons as above.

For all the foregoing reasons, it is now believed that the subject Patent Application has been placed in condition for allowance, and such action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

WU & CHEUNG, LLP

Dated: November 17, 2006

By:

Charles C.H. Wu, Esq.
Reg. No. 39,081
Vikram M. Reddy, Esq.
Reg. No. 53,508
98 Discovery
Irvine, California 92618-3105
TEL: 949-251-0111
FAX: 949-251-1588
USPTO CUSTOMER NO.: 25864



25864
PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE